Mountain Weather Forecast

Southwest Highlands

Including Ben Nevis, Glen Coe and the rest of Lochaber, Argyll including the Isles, Loch Lomond, Trossachs and Arran

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Tuesday 03 Jan 2023 until 23:59 on Wednesday 04 Jan 2023

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 03 Jan 2023 at 03:16 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for unsettled conditions on Tuesday with freezing levels rising above the tops later then for windy and showery conditions on Wednesday. Very low confidence for Thursday and Friday for the track of weather fronts moving east over the UK.

Headline for Tuesday 03 Jan 2023: Spells of sleet or snow, turning to rain later. Windy, gales at first.

Mountain weather hazards on Tuesday 03 Jan 2023

Blizzards
Medium Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
Medium Likelihood

Storm force winds
Low Likelihood

Gales
Medium Likelihood

Severe chill effect
High Likelihood

Poor visibility
High Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
Medium Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy snow	Light snow	Sleet	Light rain	Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain
Precipitation probability					
90%	90%	50%	90%	90%	90%

Forecast for Tuesday 03 Jan 2023

Weather: Snow, heavy for a time, turns to rain below 600m and eases during the morning. Drier for a couple of hours during the middle of the day before rain arrives from the southwest during the afternoon, preceded by snow above 800m. Rain becoming heavy and persistent with a thaw setting in as conditions turn milder.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10%.

Low Cloud and visibility: Extensive cloud and fog above 500 or 600m for most of the time, although bases lifting slightly for a time in the middle of the day. Whiteout conditions on the tops with blizzards in the morning and blowing snow. Below the cloud, mainly poor visibility but good for a time during the drier spell.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
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Forecast for Tuesday 03 Jan 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	64/77 SE	47/58 S	31/39 S	25/31 SE	25/31 SE	30/36 SE	36/44 S
900	42/52 SE	30/40 S	21/29 S	16/21 S	17/22 SE	18/23 SE	21/27 S
600	65/76 SE	46/56 S	28/35 S	21/27 S	12/16 SE	16/20 SE	23/29 S
300	34/45 SE	25/36 SE	13/21 S	11/18 SE	9/15 E	10/17 E	11/16 S
Glen	18/38 SE	16/34 S	8/18 SW	4/12 S	4/11 E	4/8 E	5/13 SE

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
1300	-4/-17	-3/-14	-1/-10	-1/-8	-0/-7	0/-7	0/-7
900	-2/-12	-2/-10	0/-6	0/-5	1/-5	1/-5	2/-4
600	2/-7	4/-4	3/-3	4/-1	5/2	5/2	5/0
300	3/-5	3/-3	5/1	5/2	5/2	6/3	7/4
Glen	4/-0	5/0	7/4	6/5	5/4	6/4	7/6
Freezing Level*	600m	800m	1200m	1400m	1700m	1900m	1800m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Low cloud and snow will give whiteout conditions on the tops with very difficult conditions for navigation. Milder conditions late in the day so rivers will start to rise from rain and thawing snow.

Forecast for Wednesday 04 Jan 2023

Weather: Heavy rain will clear overnight. A cloudy morning with occasional showers, falling as snow above 800m, and accompanied by strong westerly winds. Showers and winds easing in the afternoon with some bright spells.

Maximum wind: West or Southwest 30 to 40mph with gusts 50mph, easing to 20mph gusts 30mph.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 20% in morning, becoming 80% in afternoon.

Low Cloud and visibility: Frequent cloud and fog above 600m in the morning. Visibility becoming good in the afternoon with cloud lifting and breaking.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 8C falling to 2C after dark.
At 800m: Plus 3C falling to Minus 1C.
Freezing level: Above summits, falling to 800-1000m, then 500m in evening.

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